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OL. 102 APRIL, 1953 (First Issue Aug. 1, 1851) NO. 4

MPRESSIONS

ROM THE JPERINTENDENT'S DESK

Visits to 64 of our churches in the ıst five months have left some strong ıpressions upon me which I wish to are with all our fellowship. These sits have been made at the invitation the minister or the church to serve variety of purposes. I have been ked to meet with pulpit committees, each, address gatherings, counsel on ilding matters, advise on financial ograms, or just to be seen and to see.

I am impressed everywhere with the emendous opportunity for service d growth in every locality where we ve a church—an observation I have mmented upon before. It is heart- ing that some churches which have ade little gain for years are now ing to meet their challenge with gressive programs. (Read the story the Rio Vista Church in another lumn.)

One impression troubles me greatly I visit our churches. Most of the ildings were erected 40 to 60 years o, and today they are worn out. oreover, most of them are poorly aptable to present methods of wor- ip and education. These buildings ve served their purposes; they have ovided worship, education and fel- wship for two and three generations. ow they are almost fully depreciated years of usage.

At the moment when our buildings ght to be at their best, offering cilities that are attractive, commodi- s, and usable, many of them are not to standard. Again and again we ar the sad story of a Congregational mily which moves to another com- unity to find that our church in the w community is drab, ill equipped, orly located, and compares so un- vorably with other local churches at the family is lost to our fellowship.

Churches like Ferndale, San Mateo, n Rafael, Fresno First, San Fran- co First have taken vigorous steps offer adequate facilities. Others like n Jose, Palo Alto, Redwood City, irfax, Santa Rosa, again to mention few, are purchasing new locations serve better their present constitu- cy and to reach others, recognizing at their present buildings are old, tmoded and outworn.

When the people have real faith in eir church and believe in its place the community so deeply that bold ps are taken, the results invariably stify the sacrificial investment they ve made. In many a church that ls to reach its potenial it is not the vil, or the minister, or "the times" at should be blamed. A worn-out ilding provides the obstacle to new e and growth.

Friends of the Conference, I am eply troubled by this problem. It a concern of the whole fellowship d in mastering the problem, the re- urces of the whole fellowship are ailable—financial loans and grants, pert technical advice through sur- ys, architectural counsel, and the ayers and the encouragement of all. this concern the word "fellowship" comes flesh and dwells among us.

Wm David Pratt

CALL TO NINETY-SEVENTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

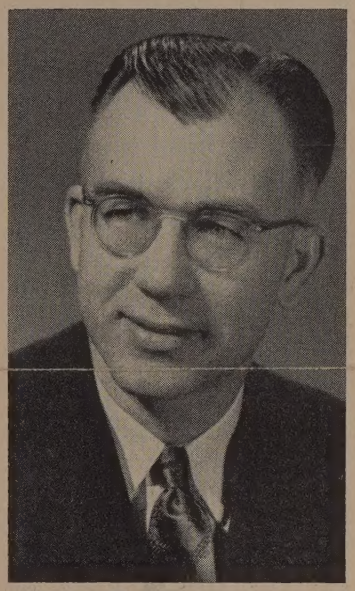
The week-end of May 22-24 has been selected for the 97th Session of the Annual State Conference. The Stockton First Church with the Rev. Noel J. Breed, pastor, will be our host.

With the challenges of our times becoming more and more insistent, it is more desirable than ever that our churches join together fully in this once-a-year opportunity to meet in unity.

The purpose of this meeting is to review the work of the past year, to consider the problems that face us as Christians, and to enjoy the fellowship of friends from all over Northern California. The inspirations received from these Conference meetings are such as to return us to our churches better equipped and more strongly resolved to make our Christian work more effective than ever.

An excellent program of speakers and discussion groups is being arranged. Provision is being made for more adequate free time to allow for fuller fellowship and exchange of ideas on the individual level.

The democratic conduct of our Congregational Church Conference organization is a well known tradition. We can continue this tradition and strengthen it by sending a full quota of delegates from each of our churches to First Church, Stockton, on May 22-24.



Herbert W. Hilker, Moderator, will preside over the Annual State Conference Sessions. Mr. Hilker is an active layman in the San Mateo Church.

OUR MODERATOR'S VISIT

Traveling more than 12,000 miles since February 1st in the interests of the denomination, Dr. Robert Cashman, our moderator, filled engagements from North Carolina in the East to California in the West.

In his report to the Executive Committee of the General Council, Dr. Cashman had this to say about the West Coast:

"The frontier of our denomination has moved to the West Coast, and particularly to California, where the population is increasing at the rate of more than 1,000 a day. Great new communities are springing up in the areas that only recently were fruit ranches or farms.

"Six years ago in San Lorenzo, near Oakland, there were 600 children. Last year there were 8,000; this year 10,000. Our little church under the direction of the Rev. Homer Swarz, is striving heroically to meet the situation, with 400 in the congregation and 1,000 in the church school, which is holding triple services, but is utterly unable to cover the needs.

In some places, congregations are meeting in homes, while church school classes are held in garages, with meager equipment. Organizations of programs and leaders is difficult. In every situation, however, there is a determination to establish the church, but the problems are so staggering, and the means to meet them are so limited that I feel we should give sympathetic and generous help as soon as possible."

THE CHURCH BUILDING LOAN FUND IS GROWING

July 1, 1952, the Church Building Loan Fund Campaign was only a concern, a hope, and a blueprint.

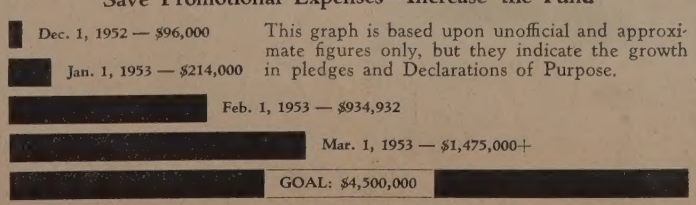
July-Dec., 1952, saw the growth of organization and spread of information.

Today it is a living thing. What is your church doing in the campaign?

HAVE YOU
- Had the cause presented by a speaker?
- Accepted the suggested goal for your church?
- Sent in your Declaration of Purpose?
- Ordered your literature?

ACT NOW — BEFORE JUNE 30, 1953

Save Promotional Expenses—Increase the Fund



This graph is based upon unofficial and approximate figures only, but they indicate the growth in pledges and Declarations of Purpose.

Thanks For Sharing

Evidence that our churches are willing to share, and share generously, when great need is presented, was shown in the fine response to our annual "One Great Hour of Sharing" appeal. Receipts to date are double those of a year ago—$8786.22 as compared with $4280.23 in 1952.

It is thrilling to hear of how some of our churches responded to the appeal. Rio Vista, one of our small, growing churches, took an offering for "One Great Hour" for the first time this year. This church has grown from an attendance of only 19 last year to its present average of 90, yet its offering on March 8 amounted to more than $300. Encouraged by this response, the members decided to take an additional offering on Easter Sunday, with a goal of $500 for the two offerings.

Another evidence that "informed givers are the best givers" comes from our Fresno Japanese Congregational Church. Rev. Norio Ozaki, the minister, reports that their offering on March 8 amounted to $123.33 with more rapidly coming in by mail. He further states that "we are noticing that the Nisei have done better than the Issei; this might be due to the fact that the Nisei were able to read the leaflets we sent out and understood the great needs of the world."

Once more the members of San Mateo Church have made "One Great Hour of Sharing" a memorable experience. A week or so before the offering was taken, the church bulletin mentioned the hope that the church might have as much as $1,000 in its offering for relief on March 8. Now comes the amazing part! On Sunday, March 8, the share offering was $999.66! The two financial secretaries who tabulated the result each put in 17 cents to make it an even $1000.

The largest gift in the Conference was made by Berkeley First Church in the amount of $1736.38. This represented a $500 increase over their offering last year.

NEW PROJECTS FOR CAZADERO

The Cazadero Commission has drawn up a new list of projects for our camp at Cazadero. Those slated for accomplishment in the immediate future include development of the spring to the point where adequate supply of water is assured; cleaning and repair of water tank, including hooking up the small tank on hand; repair of the road to the spring; re-roofing of porches of the dormitory; building of tool storage space beneath the dorm; finishing cement walk around the pool; erecting permanent fencing around the pool; building food-storage space beneath the ranch house; and cleaning culverts and ditches the length of the camp road. Experts and novices for work-parties welcome.

Long-term dreams include the construction of four new cabins. the remodeling of the Dorm into administrative offices and crew's quarters; building of a new residence for the manager, more closely linked with present facilities; and, most important. construction of the long-awaited lodge for eating and recreation purposes. Prayers and dollars for these projects welcomed!

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Pastoral Changes

Rev. Gifford Webster, pastor at the Mira Vista Church of El Cerrito since its founding in 1950, has resigned as its pastor to take effect May 1. His leadership has brought this church into being and through its growth to a membership of 147, a church school of 226 and a budget of $11,530 per year. He has resigned to enter private business, but intends to continue an active relationship with the churches of the Conference which join in wishing him every success in his new endeavors.

Rev. Robert Murray Pratt, father of the Superintendent, who has just moved to Mountain View, has been engaged by the Sierra Arden Church at Sacramento as interim pastor. The Rev. and Mrs. Pratt devote their weekends to serving the church.

REPORT ON THE FAR EAST

A lecture by the leader of the mission tour sponsored by our American Board for Foreign Missions was given on Sunday evening, April 12, at First Congregational Church, San Francisco, at 7:30 o'clock. Rev. Armstrong Hunter of Boston, Massachusetts, brought first-hand impressions of those just returning from seeing the actual work being done by our American Board in such places as Hawaii, Manila, Hong Kong and Japan.

OUR TELEVISION MINISTRY

Two new programs of the radio and television ministry of the Northern California-Nevada Council of Churches are in full production on two stations in the Bay Area.

"Know Your Neighbor's Religion," televised on KPIX, 5:30 p.m., each Sunday afternoon, is the cooperative effort of the Protestant, Catholic and Jewish faiths. Designed to teach the precepts of each of these faiths ,the program is arranged so that each of the religious groups concerned appears every third Sunday.

The first Protestant broadcast concerned the meaning of the sacrament of Communion and, according to station reports, was well received.

The second program of this ministry is "Faith of Our Fathers" on Radio Station KNBC. The program is non-denominational in character with emphasis placed on music. Talent is drawn from all over the California-Nevada area, which enables the program to present the best in music and speakers.

PEOPLE AND PLACES

Rev. Francis W. McPeek, Industrial Relations Secretary of the Council for Social Action for the last six years, has resigned to become Executive Director of the Chicago Commission on Human Relations. Mr. McPeek won wide recognition among laymen and ministers in the Congregational Christian Churches for his informed, understanding interpretation of labor and management.

Dr. Ralph Hyslop will begin his sabbatical leave in June, after completing six years of teaching at Pacific School of Religion. For eight months he will be a member of the staff of the World Council of Churches, working chiefly in Geneva, Switzerland, but also traveling widely in Europe. The Hyslops will sail from Quebec on the Cunard liner Scythia and after docking at LeHavre, travel to Geneva where the family will live.

Rev. Joseph Ma, minister of the Chinese Congregational Church of San Francisco, will be the featured speaker at the Pilgrim Fellowship Conference in Tacoma, Washington, on April 17. Mr. Ma is recently from Hongkong and in addition to his pastorate, he also teaches at the Hip Wo School.

Rev. and Mrs. Sherwood F. Moran, who have been representing our American Board for Foreign Missions in Japan, are at home on furlough. Their address through July will be 722 Alden Road, Claremont, Calif.

A party honoring Dr. and Mrs. Clarence Reidenbach will be given by the members of the Oakland First Congregational Church on Friday, May 15. Friends from other churches, from local civic and fraternal groups will join in saying "thank you" to Dr. Reidenbach for his 20 years of service to his church and the entire community.

After more than three years of loyal and excellent work in the Conference office, Miss Pauline Louie has resigned to become secretary at Western Dairy Products, Inc.

At the last meeting of the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors, it was voted to request Mrs. Esther Ericson and Mrs. Florence Rahill to remain as secretaries in the Conference office and the Christian Education Department office for another year. Both were commended for their long and faithful service to the Northern California Conference.

ST. ANDREWS, 1953

Dr. Sidney M. Berry writes that things are shaping well for the next meeting of the International Congregational Council at St. Andrews, June 20-29. "Scotland has taken up its duty as host with great enthusiasm and already their arrangements are well advanced for the reception of their guests. The Council will be housed during its stay in Scotland in some of the Halls of Residence of the University at St. Andrews, so that all the delegates and associate delegates will be living in the same buildings. The only thing that remains is for Scotland to control its weather. Given fine weather, but not quite as hot as it was at Wellesley, we shall be assured of a very happy time in that historic city."

The names of those attending the Council from Northern California will be published in next month's Pacific.

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA'S C. B. L. F. STANDING

"The Church Building Loan Fund Campaign Comes Alive" is the slogan for the new year, and as we look at the number of churches in Northern California who have already accepted their goals, we feel that the campaign is now becoming alive in our own Conference.

Sixty-three of our 103 churches have accepted a goal, some above the goals suggested by our state committee. The campaign is proving to be a wholesome influence on our entire fellowship, and it is hoped that other churches will share in this great undertaking by sending in their Declaration of Purpose soon.

Below is a list of all churches now shown on the national Honor Roll from this Conference.

Angel's Camp	$ 567.00
Antioch	2,143.00
Auburn	1,196.00
Benicia	200.00
Berkeley, Arlington	3,500.00
Berkeley, Chinese	547.00
Berkeley, First	10,600.00
Berkeley, North	1,785.00
Biola	1,500.00
Campbell	1,364.00
Cedarville Community	507.00
Cloverdale	780.00
Concord, Hillcrest	505.00
Crockett	125.00
Eagleville	255.00
El Cerrito, Mira Vista	562.00
Elk Grove	1,150.00
Etna	325.00
Eureka	1,722.00
Fairfax	1,096.00
Fowler, First Armenian	545.00
Fresno, First	5,400.00
Fresno, Japanese	1,200.00
Fresno, Pilgrim Armenian	3,300.00
Hayward, Eden	5,400.00
Lodi, Ebenezer	1,500.00
Lodi, First	1,965.00
Loomis	1,103.00
Los Gatos, Skyland Community	84.00
Martinez	3,000.00
Murphy's	350.00
Oakland, First	6,000.00
Oakland, New Pilgrim	1,070.00
Oakland, Plymouth	4,690.00
Orinda	2,443.00
Oroville	1,988.00
Palo Alto	1,000.00
Paradise, Craig Memorial	1,800.00
Petaluma	1,745.00
Pittsburg	700.00
Porterville	1,980.00
Redwood City	2,320.00
Ripon	502.00
Sacramento, First	7,350.00
Sacramento, Oak Park	462.00
Sacramento, Sierra Arden	1,500.00
Salida	742.00
Sanger	700.00
San Carlos	3,406.00
San Francisco, Chinese	510.00
San Francisco, First	6,000.00
San Francisco, Pilgrim	1,042.00
San Jose, Church of the Valley	200.00
San Jose, First	2,384.00
San Mateo, First	6,014.00
Sebastopol	1,515.00
Sunol	600.00
Sonoma	351.00
Stockton, First	3,157.00
Suisun	646.00
Tulare	1,550.00
Weaverville	591.00
Woodside	770.00
	$120,004.00

WORTH HEARING

The National Council of Churches has invited our Church Building Loan Fund Campaign to take over their "Let There Be Light" program for the week April 19 to 26, inclusive. Two hundred forty-one stations will carry this program.

We are the first denomination asked to present a denominational program through this channel. It is significant that the National Council has taken note of our effort and is asking us to present our Church Building Loan Fund Campaign as an example of what Protestantism is doing under "The Church in Action."

A dramatic script has been prepared by professional writers and the actors and actresses are all radio professionals and experts.

Leaflets will be sent from New York headquarters to all ministers announcing the program, in the hope that local churches will check their radio stations for exact time of the program.

From The Resolutions Committee

In an attempt to implement action taken by the Board of Directors at its October meeting, the Resolutions Committee appointed by Moderator Herbert Hilker, met at the home of one of its members, Mrs. Laura Haymond, in the latter part of March and formulated a policy which it hopes will be accepted by both ministers and laymen, for the handling of resolutions to be submitted to the coming Annual Meeting of the Conference in May. The desire of the Board, strongly endorsed by the committee, is to avoid the kind of thing which so often happens at Conferences, as it did in a peculiarly unhappy way at last year's Conference in Oakland, that important resolutions are presented to the sessions at a late hour, without any previous opportunity for study by the delegates and therefore acted upon without sufficient opportunity for study and discussion, or tabled for shortness of time.

The Committee recommends, therefore, in view of this objective: 1. That all resolutions submitted, if they have any value, are for the purpose of giving the Conference delegates opportunity to express themselves on matters which are timely and of **current concern;** therefore, resolutions should fit that description. 2. All resolutions to be offered for Conference consideration should be submitted **in advance,** at least two weeks prior to the opening day of the Conference, to the chairman of the Committee, the Rev. Donald F. Gaylord, Court and Susana Streets, Martinez. The Committee will mimeograph these to be handed out to all delegates at the registration desk. 3. Other than resolutions so submitted, only emergency resolutions may be accepted by the Committee for presentaion to the Conference, an emergency applying to some situation seeming to be of great Conference concern which arises between the above deadline and the Conference itself. The Committee will have to act as judge as to what actually constitutes such an emergency. In addition to the chairman, other Committee members are: Mrs. Laura Haymond and Mr. C. A. Buskirk.

YOUTH FRUIT CAMP

Since 1952, the Christian Youth Fruit Camps, established in 1948 under the Pilgrim Fellowship, have functioned under the Youth Work Committee of the Northern California-Nevada Council of Churches.

The purpose of these camps is to salvage surplus fruit, especially peaches, for drying and shipping to overseas areas of hunger and need.

The personnel includes high school young people 15 years and older, who pay $1.00 per day for board.

The time of the 1953 camps will be: Hughson, July 25 to August 22; Gridley, August 1-29.

The budget for the two camps is $1600.00 which covers nominal salaries and expenses for the leaders, costs of processing and packing the fruit. Of this amount $1300.00 comes from the Congregational Service Committee. Other support is provided by local churches, denominations and individuals.

Local chairmen are the Rev. Joseph Pritchard, Modesto, and the Rev. John Reimers of Gridley.

Leadership personnel and young people who would like to engage in this humanitarian experience this coming summer should communicate with the Rev. George Lindsay, 2345 Channing Way, Berkeley 4.

'wenty-five new members, who were received into membership in the Rio Vista ongregational Church on Palm Sunday, surround the minister, the Rev. Wm. . McReynolds.

At a three o'clock service on Palm unday, the Rev. William T. McRey-olds was installed as pastor of the Rio ista Congregational Church by an cclesiastical Council of the Upper ay Association with the Rev. Herbert imock of Antioch presiding.

The Scripture was read by the Rev. lmer Jeske, of Port Chicago. The egistrar, the Rev .Robert Carlson of illcrest, presented the record of cre-entials. Rev. Donald Gaylord, of lartinez, extended the right hand of ellowship. The charge to the church as given by the Rev. William D. ratt, and the charge to the minister y Dr. Stuart Leroy Anderson. Dr. alph Douglas Hyslop, of the Pacific chool of Religion, preached the ser-ion on the topic, "The Church's One oundation."

An especially interesting feature was he new minister's progress report to he Association. The benediction was iven by the Rev. Frank Carlson of he Skyland Church.

Since the arrival in mid-December f the new pastor, the Rio Vista hurch has manifested renewed inter-st. A parsonage was purchased for he minister so that his uncle and aunt ould provide home life. All three of he family had been active in the First ongregational Church of Salem, regon.

At the annual meeting, a doubled udget was adopted in anticipation of n expanding church program. For he first time, a Christmas contribution as made for Veterans of the Cross, lso a substantial offering for One reat Hour of Sharing. A two weeks' rive placed the church on the 10% oll of subscribers to Advance Mag-zine.

LODI, FIRST—Dr. Hugh Vernon White of the Pacific School of Re-igion was guest speaker at the evening ervice March 22, using as his topic, "Christ, the Redeemer." After the ormal meeting, most of those present emained for an interesting discussion eriod. The Children's Processional of Palms provided a dramatic opening for he 9:30 and 11 a.m. Palm Sunday services. The processional hymns of he children climaxed weeks of meet-ng in the Pilgrim Club, a Friday afternoon event for the children of grades one through six. The Plymouth Players of the church presented the Eastertide drama, "He Is Risen," on Palm Sunday evening. A dramatic presentation by this group has become a tradition at this time of year.

FRESNO, FIRST—A series of in-stitutional ads on the general theme, "We Believe," has been run by the church in the local newspaper during the Lenten season. The members feel the money has been well spent, both from the standpoint of increased church attendance and acquainting the general public with the beliefs of the Congregational Church. Seventy-one new members were received in March and 49 joined the church on Maundy Thursday. The One Great Hour of Sharing offering in March amounted to $1,097.86, and the Easter offering will go to the Church Building Loan Fund. Rev. Ronald I. Hargis, Minister of Education, has just completed conducting a series of parents' meetings on the five Monday evenings of March, preparing parents to understand the church's program of Christian education, as well as training them to assist in the teaching of their children at home and in the church school classes. Rev. John H. Gregg is the pastor.

OAKLAND, FIRST—At a special communion service Palm Sunday afternoon, 50 new members were received into the church and 31 babies were baptized. The choir had the entire time of both services on March 22 to present Faure's Requiem. A string quartet of outstanding musicians assisted in the accompaniment. It was an exceptional performance. Rev. William Pratt, the new superintendent, who is also national chairman of the Congregational West Coast of Mexico Commission, spoke to the Women's League recently and showed his beautiful pictures in connection with his talk on "Making Congregationalists in Mexico." On March 15, Dr. Stanley North preached a vital and impressive sermon on Congregationalism and the needs for the Church Building Loan Fund. His topic was, "The Time Is Now."

SANTA CRUZ — An unexpected pleasure was afforded a group of men in this church on Saturday, March 6, when Dr. Robert Cashman, Moderator of the General Council, made a special unscheduled visit to Santa Cruz. By telephone, a luncheon meeting was arranged for as many men as could be reached—16 came—and it was a meeting to remember. After being privileged last summer to hold an evening session with Dr. Vere Loper, then Moderator of the General Council, the members of this church feel they are learning something about "churchmanship" and their responsibilities as members of a great body of Christian people known as the "Church."

SARATOGA — The church has launched a financial campaign with a goal of $65,000 to add a new wing to their present facilities for religious education and fellowship purposes.

PIEDMONT COMMUNITY — Congratulations to the Piedmont Community Church on going over the top in its campaign to provide an additional building and other improvements. The goal of $92,000 was easily achieved and the fund is still growing at $98,000.

COTATI—The church has completed the first step in improving their facilities with the moving of the religious education and social hall unit from its old foundation to a place near the sanctuary unit. The foundation has been poured for an enlarged sanctuary in a program of building improvement which the local church is financing and to which many hours of voluntary labor are being given. Rev. Jack Heal, the minister, serves this church as student pastor.

BERKELEY, SOUTH—Community Church enjoyed its best series of Sunday evening Lenten Services for the last five years. The attendance was high and the programs were good. The speakers included: Dr. Vere V. Loper, the Rev. Roy Nichols, the Rev. Ross F. Hildy, the Rev. J. Austell Hall, and Dr. Ray Edmond Phillips, Congregational missionary to South Africa. Three of the services were union services with North Congregational Church and St. Paul A.M.E. Church.

BENICIA, COMMUNITY — For some years this church has made a practice of going to Cazadero for a week-end during the summer. Reservations are already made for June 6 and 7. This has been a planning meeting in the past, and all interested in the church should plan to attend. Rev. William Pratt has been invited, and this will give the members a real opportunity to meet and know the new Conference Superintendent.

PESCADERO—A two weeks Daily Vacation Church School will be held in the new church building, and teachers from the Conference Religious Education office will assist in the school. The Sunday School is having good success with a combination extended session and junior church plan. The big need is still for teachers, but it is hoped that the summer school will provide good laboratory opportunities to encourage and instruct new teachers. The church is eagerly looking forward to the visit of Superintendent Pratt on Sunday afternoon, April 12, when he will lead in the dedication of the new building.

SACRAMENTO, PIONEER—Bassett Chapel, named in honor of Mr. and Mrs. George Bassett, for many years loyal members and generous contributors, was dedicated February 25. The new chapel will be used as a worship center for youth, for small weddings and prayer services. A record breaking attendance for morning worship services was made at Pioneer Church this year and the membership also raised the largest yearly budget in the history of the church. $7,250 has been pledged to the Church Building Loan Fund.

HAYWARD, EDEN — Added to the rolls of Eden Congregational Church were 103 new members in a simple but impressive ceremony on Maundy Thursday evening. Fifty-three of the new members had never belonged to a church previously. A Membership Visitation was conducted during Lent, followed by three instruction meetings which the prospective members attended. The visitation was made by forty teams of church members. The sacrament of baptism was administered to fifty persons during various services in Holy Week, twenty-five of whom were adults.

Plans are proceeding for the erection during the summer months of another large wing to the physical plant, to be used primarily for educational purposes. A registration of 700 children has made it necessary to put some on waiting lists, even though two complete Church Schools are conducted each Sunday. A lot adjoining the church is soon to be paved and to be used for both parking and recreational purposes. The Men's Club is planning the first annual Men's Retreat to be held a week-end in May.

CONCORD, HILLCREST — The open house and service of dedication for the new educational unit which was held on Sunday afternoon, March 22, was the culmination of the hopes and dreams and prayers of the Hillcrest members. Rev. William D. Pratt, Superintendent, Mr. John Neukom, San Mateo layman, and Dr. William McCormack took part in the services. This represented a great moment in the life of the Hillcrest Church.

BERKELEY, NORTH—A double-header was scheduled last Sunday evening with Dr. Ray Phillips at 6:30 and Mr. Weseman at 8:00! Both gave splendid presentations. The African exhibits were a stellar attraction in themselves. Loans of African art and flora as well as exhibits on transportation and commerce provided an entertaining and educational evening.

SAN JOSE, CHURCH OF THE VALLEY—Preliminary plans for the Church of the Valley have been approved by the Church Building Society. Plans are being formulated for a local building fund drive early in May. In the meantime, church services are being held in the home of the minister, the Rev. John C. Carroll. One hundred and forty-seven adults and children at the Palm Sunday service, however, convinced the minister of the necessity of going outside. Above is a picture showing a canvas being placed over the patio for the Easter service.

WOMEN'S FEDERATION NEWS

MRS. JOHN HARRISON, Correspondent

Neither March wind nor cold nor pouring rain could deter the usual number from Federation meeting. There were even a few brave new ones. President Mrs. Gail Cleland opened the meeting with prayer and a few timely remarks based upon words from Philippians 3:13-14. At this time of stress in the world we have no right to dwell upon past mistakes or accomplishments; but with confidence and faith, press forward toward the mark.

Reports of Secretaries: Mrs. Buckham spoke briefly of the four authorized specials for 1953. A letter from Miss Hurlbert in Africa was read, telling of the need for more wells, or the deepening of the present wells. It is estimated that $10.00 will pay for cement to deepen each well six feet. This will give water for irrigation and household use. It seems unreal to us that anyone should have to walk miles to get water. It was voted to send $10.00 from the Federation and to ask each group to send as much as possible if unable to send the entire cost of a well.

The Government of India has asked Mrs. Moulton to start another sisal factory. The officials can see how much this work has helped the people and now are friendly to the effort. The Lodi women have received three orders of the sisal bags. They are really worth while, a way to help the women of India and the group at home.

Help build another school in Bombay, India. The Government required $31,000 deposit with the High Court before building could start. This amount was loaned by one man and we can all have a part in repaying. The student pays about $150.00 a year and his family furnishes food.

Mrs. Ramsey reported on the Centennial Celebration of the Micronesia Missions, where Miss Elenor Wilson is doing such good work. The church is made of beautiful coral stone and lovingly cared for by the people.

Our speaker of the afternoon was Dr. Ray Phillips, who was introduced by the Rev. Frank E. Carlson, as our representative in South Africa. He is head of the Jan Hofmeyr School of Social Work. Mrs. Phillips is in charge of a detention house for girls. The Union of South Africa is situated upon a high plateau, altitude 6000 feet, with beautiful stimulating climate, rich gold and uranium mines, and all possible problems. One-third the size of the United States, there are 60,000 white men and 300,000 black men. America must know the cause of the unrest in Africa, and Dr. Phillips was called home to try to tell us. The need is continued energy in education, agriculture, 4-H Clubs and church centered recreation. John R. Mott says, "unless we do more in Africa and India, we have already done too much."

Mrs. Harry Drobish, who recently returned home from an extended stay in Palestine, gave an excellent talk, illustrated with interesting pictures. She told of how our 4-Point program is helping in this high tension spot of the world.

Worship service was led by Mrs. MacGregor.

Mrs. Lessine reminded us of the Spring Session, June 2, 3, 4. Each group should send at least one, as there will be room for 90 women, three from each church.

The annual meeting of the Federation will be held in Berkeley First Church, Thursday, April 16. Rev. William Pratt will speak in the morning on "Christ at the Heart of the Free World." Mary Dawn Gladson will give a dramatic presentation on "Cry, the Beloved Country," accompanied by music. Luncheon price is $1.00 and reservations should be sent to Mrs. Vera Dickerson, 26 Crystal Way, Berkeley 8. Free child care will be provided. Dr. Vere Loper will close the meeting in a service of worship.

AN INVITATION

The Fort Bidwell Church of Modoc County is petitioning for recognition and reception into membership in the Sacramento Valley Association of Congregational Churches. Rev. John F. Dunstan, the moderator, extends an invitation to churches and pastors to assemble in Fort Bidwell at 4 p.m., April 30th. At that time there will be a review of the organization of the church, the constitution, membership, elected officers, etc. Matters of general business will be in order, and a vote of acceptance for the Fort Bidwell Church.

A community dinner will follow at 6 o'clock, with the formal service of worship and fellowship at 8 p.m.

FORT BERTHOLD WORK CAMP

The Board of Home Missions and the Congregational Christian Service Committee are making possible two Pilgrim Fellowship work camps on the mainland of the United States. The one of interest to our young people in the West will be held at Fort Berthold, North Dakota, July 5-August 15.

The project will be construction work on the Indian church and parsonage to be relocated because of the flooding of part of the reservation for the construction of the Garrison Dam on the Missouri River. Work campers will have opportunity to work with the Indian young people in their churches and aid in other community events relative to the relocation of the reservation.

Size of camp: 20 young people.

Ages: 18-25 years.

Cost: $43.00 (room, board, and insurance). Each work camper pays his own transportation to and from the camp.

Apply to: Rev. Henry R. Rust, Young People's Department, 14 Beacon Street, Boston 8, Massachusetts.

HANDS OF HELP

This is a call to demonstrate what we mean by fellowship.

Fruitvale Congregational Church of Oakland desperately needs the help of the fellowship in a concrete way.

Under the Church Development Committee of the Conference, a thorough survey and census in the neighborhood is planned. It will be directed by Wesley A. Hotchkiss, survey expert of the Board of Home Missions. It is expected that a report will be given on which the future of this church will rest—to relocate, to change its present program emphasis, or to disband as a church.

Ministers and as many men and women of our churches are wanted to devote as much time as possible on the day of Friday, April 24. Lunch and dinner will be served at the church for those volunteering to help in the canvass.

REPORT CARD

In spite of our increased giving to One Great Hour of Sharing this year, our total benevolence giving dropped slightly over the first three months of last year. However, receipts in the Conference office on the first two days of April amounted to $6,000, which we regret was received too late to credit the March, 1953, column below.

	App't Jan. 11 to Mar. 31,'52	App't Jan. 11 to Mar. 31,'53
Alameda	$ 91.64	$ 168.28
Alturas	10.00	10.00
Angel's Camp	50.00	123.50
Antioch	356.67	530.79
Auburn	60.00	120.00
Benicia	——	95.71
Berkeley, Arlington	300.00	1078.59
Chinese	42.00	——
First	4590.06	2535.93
North	435.33	——
Northbrae	400.00	——
South	189.79	129.58
Biola	——	8.53
Campbell	——	161.07
Cedarville	81.10	33.83
Cloverdale	25.00	——
Concord, Hillcrest	4.50	227.00
Cotati	——	45.15
Crockett	105.87	——
Eagleville	17.61	62.35
El Cerrito, Mira Vista	8.40	——
Elk Grove	72.30	110.96
Etna	68.66	107.77
Eureka	292.27	156.19
Fairfax	117.50	54.80
Ferndale	34.90	28.00
Fowler	——	75.00
Fresno, First	1610.46	2052.21
Japanese	50.00	——
Zion	——	70.24
Glen Ellen	——	7.25
Guerneville	134.44	51.71
Hayward	400.00	800.00
Kenwood	5.35	15.35
Lodi, Ebenezer	——	9.55
First	505.83	657.90
Loleta	5.22	5.88
Loomis	——	100.00
Los Gatos, Skyland	27.89	28.75
Martinez	366.53	401.42
Modesto	43.10	——
Murphys	——	97.50
Niles	50.00	34.23
Oakland, First	1700.00	1655.00
Fruitvale	——	78.00
Japanese	——	60.00
New Pilgrim	128.79	103.40
Plymouth	662.60	354.99
Orinda	570.73	419.62
Oroville	285.85	200.00
Palo Alto	1685.12	1159.29
Paradise	190.00	225.00
Parlier	10.00	10.00
Penngrove	9.75	28.24
Pescadero	5.00	7.77
Petaluma	489.75	332.96
Pittsburg	57.01	114.20
Port Chicago	——	10.55
Porterville	750.00	750.00
Redwood City	472.59	263.44
Rio Vista	12.00	50.00
Ripon	194.41	176.55
Sacramento, First	704.45	837.50
Oak Park	36.41	34.42
Sierra Arden	166.68	——
Salida	50.00	——
San Carlos	600.00	670.00
San Francisco—		
Beth. Miss. Park	38.00	——
Calvary Armenian	——	50.00
First	524.10	1147.44
Park Presidio	117.29	318.61
Pilgrim	50.00	87.05
St. John's	71.01	48.62
San Jose	513.00	366.66
San Leandro	30.45	44.06
San Lorenzo	150.00	——
San Mateo	1800.00	1660.00
San Rafael	71.20	100.71
Santa Cruz	292.00	273.60
Santa Rosa	29.60	24.15
Saratoga	259.10	336.35
Sebastopol	428.31	172.55
Sonoma	50.00	55.75
Soquel	90.65	96.10
Stockton	283.90	416.22
Suisun	85.45	69.81
Sunnyvale	54.76	——
Sunol	117.35	62.46
Tulare	460.00	362.00
Weaverville	135.63	106.95
Woodside	81.96	139.85
Reno, Nevada	157.53	178.30
Pilgrim Fellowship	383.60	908.57
Miscellaneous	174.88	101.00
	25,783.90	24,862.76

WORK DAY FOR CHRIST

Reports to the National Pilgrim Fellowship indicate that 460 groups in 28 state conferences dedicated $16,123.38 from the Third Annual National Work Day for Christ. This is more than twice the amount reported in 1951 . Of this amount PFers of the Northern California Conference raised $1272.79.

RACE PREJUDICE

"Many church people have fallen victim," writes George D. Kelsey, "to the widespread error of identifying race prejudice with mere expressions of personal preference. That is, when race is being discussed, someone will often volunteer some such verdict as the following: 'Well, after all, don't people have a right to their personal preferences? Is it not true that some people prefer blondes over brunettes or slender people over stout people? Similarly, people have a right to prefer white people over black people.' It does not occur to those who hold to this point of view that such preferences are normally expressed only in the narrow field of romance, and politics and economics are never organized on their basis. On the contrary, race prejudice is thoroughly an intergroupal phenomenon. It does not rise or persist in the realm of interpersonal relations where preferences are expressed. It is a sentiment of contempt for the repudiation of a whole group of people without qualification and exception." ("Racial Patterns and the Churches," by George D. Kelsey, in SOCIAL PROGRESS, March, 1953.)

PORTERVILLE—The men of this church had as guest speaker recently Mr. Otto Knudsen of Redlands, and have become intersted in forming an effective laymen's organization.

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